

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

25. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus for assisting in the identification of a marked liquid, the liquid comprising a plurality of markers miscible with the liquid and present in a predetermined pattern of relative concentrations, the apparatus comprising:

a detector for detecting the plurality of markers and for generating signals indicative of relative concentrations of each of the markers, the signals defining a measured concentration pattern; and

a data processor connected to the detector to receive the signals therefrom, the data processor comprising:

a look-up table storing a plurality of known concentration patterns, each pattern corresponding to the signal from a specific combination of the plurality of markers at predefined relative concentrations; and

a pattern comparison element capable of comparing the measured concentration pattern with known concentration patterns of identified liquids, the known patterns being accessible, via the look up table, to the pattern comparison element, so as to permit the identification of the marked liquid.